

NSC BRIEFING

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16 October 1954

PAKISTANI POLITICAL SITUATION

1. Tough-minded but chronically failing Governor General heading able pro-American government now appears control situation.
  - A. Govt. has full support of armed and civil services.
  - B. Will deal firmly with any counter move by dissidents.
  - C. Mohammed Ali holds office as front for governor general and cabinet with tenure dependent on good behavior.
  - D. Moslem League now badly split, moribund.
    1. Postponement scheduled convention by both government and dissident factions indicates no positive achievement possible.
    2. Unlikely League can revitalize self soon.
    3. As result this situation, national elections not imminent.

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1. Govt. may feel unable control them.
2. Constitution therefore further delayed.

II. Govt. faces problems in effort achieve stability.

- A. Absence responsible political groups.
- B. Economic instability, due:
  1. Jute and cotton slump.
  2. Resultant shortage foreign exchange essential to economic development.
  3. Recent increase US aid to \$155 million for FY 1955 will meet current year's need.